

6714005



FLASHBACK

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
MAR 5 1979
LIBRARY OF THE ARKANSAS

Preserving the Past for the Future



CONTENTS



To Keep You Informed	1
The Irrepressible Dr. Samuel Bard	2
Old Circuit Court	5
More Prairie Grove Literature	8
Queries	9
William Quesenbury's Diary	11
Dolly Sitton Bentley Photographs	16
From the Flashback Files	24
Lincoln's Apple Heritage	25
Library News and Notes	29
Marriages in 1886	30

PUBLISHED BY

Washington County Historical Society

FEBRUARY, 1979





FLASHBACK

VOLUME 29



NUMBER 1



Flashback is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. All material being submitted for publication should be sent to the editor at 118 East Dickson, Fayetteville, AR 72701. No payment is made for the articles published in **Flashback**.

Membership in this Society is open to anyone interested in the collection and preservation of Washington County history.

Dues are payable on a calendar basis, and are \$6.00 annually. Single numbers of the **Flashback** (back or current issues) are \$2.00 each.

*Back inside cover illustration is an original sketch of a Washington County scene, the first of a series by Helen Finger Leflar that **Flashback** will be privileged to include in succeeding issues.*

OFFICERS

President	Col. L. L. Browne, Jr.
Vice President	Carl M. Russell
Corresponding Secretary	Kay Brumfield
Recording Secretary	Emily Tompkins
Treasurer	Barbara Mitchell
Editor	Ellen Shipley

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Until 1980

Lilie S.G. Johnson, Tom Lavender, Lois Lawson Morris

Until 1981

Thelma Manske, Peggy Hoffman, Rex Alan Smith

Until 1982

Helen Leflar, Jean Newhouse, Bunn Bell



From the Editor

This issue of the *Flashback* marks a change in editors. Over the past five years, under the skillful editorship of Jean Newhouse, and the talented assistance of her husband, Keith, the Washington County Historical Society Journal has achieved a new level of excellence. The *Flashback's* attractive format and its high-quality content have won 3 awards in the Arkansas Historical Association's annual contest for state historical society journals. We wish to now give special recognition and thanks to Jean for her very considerable success.

We will attempt to maintain the quality of the *Flashback* in every way. A necessary new procedure in the printing process will make the journal some pages less in length, but the amount of material will equal our usual number of pages.

To Keep You Informed

Although this has been a very expensive year for the Society, we are in reasonably good financial condition. We spent more than we took in, primarily because the air conditioning project to Headquarters House cost more than we had budgeted for it. That overrun of \$1,282 just about accounts for the year's deficit (to date) of \$1,442.83.

Hopefully, we will be getting memberships enough in December to wipe that out, as we expect to get the membership letters out within the next few days.

The Ice Cream Social brought in a net of \$1,258.28, mainly because of the generosity of its chairmen, the Keith Cearleys.

We lost a net of \$872 on publications, aside from FLASHBACK. FLASHBACK cost \$1,468 for the first three issues. The November issue and membership list will increase that substantially. And next year, it will undoubtedly cost more. Printing, paper and postage have all increased greatly.

Another net cost last year was the purchase of FLASHBACK binders for \$1,392.66 which has so far brought in only \$559. We will again include an order form in the membership letter and hope to bring in more orders.

We have \$3900 in interest-bearing certificates from our paid life memberships. We have a savings reserve account of \$3,063.62, and a checking account of \$2,977.79. This should increase materially when membership dues begin to arrive.

We will have some major roof repairs to do on Headquarters House, but the expensive utility bills (\$1,124.32 so far this year) should decrease somewhat with the new heating and air conditioning equipment.

If our membership continues to hold up or increase in 1979, we hope to be able to do the needed repairs and maintenance on the old jail and still increase our services to members. If you have not renewed your membership, or if you have been thinking about joining the society, please help us out by sending in your dues as soon as possible.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE DR. SAMUEL BARD

JOHN I. SMITH

Few people in Fayetteville or in Washington County ever heard of the man who called himself Samuel Bard, for, even though he was our representative in the General Assembly in 1868, he was here only a few years. He came unknown to the people and soon left for Georgia with not many more close acquaintances.

One ordinarily does not think of Washington County as having been visited by those strange people called the carpetbaggers, however, we had a few here and so did the other counties of the northwestern part of the state. Most of the carpetbaggers went further south. Bard was as prominent as any carpetbagger who came to this county.

The political minded carpetbaggers had little opportunity to exert any influence in the South until Congress passed the Reconstruction bills of March 2 and 29 and July 17, 1867. Thereafter their power increased until they got complete control of Arkansas July 2, 1868, when Powell Clayton, their first governor, was inaugurated.

The Reconstruction Acts mentioned above provided for a new registration of voters, disenfranchising the Confederates and enfranchising the Negroes, for a new constitution for Arkansas (that of 1868) and a new set of officers. In that new set, Bard came in unopposed as representative in the Legislature.

This General Assembly met only a few days after the election of March 13 to 27, 1868. This election approved the recently formed constitution, known as the Constitution of 1868, and elected state and county officers. Since the conservatives, or Southern ex-Confederate people, pronounced the election illegal and hoped to challenge the procedure in Federal Court, they put up no slate of candidates for either state or county officers. Even in counties which could have elected good conservative men, and Washington County was this type, none entered the contest. The radicals swept the election, and many disreputable men came into office.

After the General Assembly had performed all the standard demands of the radical Congress of that date, it refused to adjourn and whiled away the time in foolishness until their master, Powell Clayton, took the oath of office as governor. Our Washington County representative, Samuel Bard, then announced that he would introduce a measure to make the uniforms of the inmates of the penitentiary the same as those of the late Confederate Army, those incarcerated for manslaughter being entitled to wear the uniform of a colonel and on down to lesser crimes, the garb of the private.⁵ This rather cantankerous insult to the Confederate memory and the humorous name - Samuel Bard - caused the writer of this article to investigate further.

Samuel Bard came to Washington County in 1866 from New York where he apparently served as a democratic journalist.¹ His first purchase of property here was March 15, 1866.² It might be here said that many of the most objectionable carpetbaggers were democrats while citizens of the North, and this was true of Bard. Why they changed their allegiance is not fully understood. Bard was one who made several shifts of allegiance after he came to the South.

Like nearly all carpetbaggers, Bard, on reaching Washington County, purchased land which could then be had for only a little cash. Tax land was available and so was land sold by courts under foreclosure and probate sales. He eventually owned about ten tracts around Elkins and Fayetteville, primarily the former. In both buying and selling, he traded a lot with well known radicals of that day. After returning from the General Assembly, Bard sold some of his real estate and moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he had previously purchased a newspaper, *The New Era*.³ He had to be in the fight there and began to attack the radical Governor Rufus B. Bullock, a relative of Theodore Roosevelt. This attack represents one of the several changes of front that he made. Bullock, to stop this noise, purchased his paper. Bard seemed to shuttle backward and forward from Fayetteville to Georgia without the citizens of either place knowing his whereabouts when he was absent. I found about his Atlanta association from a report from a Federal archive.

After selling his Atlanta paper, Bard was then appointed by President Grant to the governorship of the Territory of Idaho, and he was confirmed by the United States Senate March 30, 1870.⁴ These were the days of the Nez Perces, of Chief Old Joseph, of his son Joseph, and of Chief Kamiakam. No doubt, Bard, too fat to run, envisioned arrows whizzing past his ears, and he resigned without serving a day.

Bard then purchased another paper, the *Daily True Georgian*, and thereafter he was termed in Georgia, "the irrepressible Dr. Samuel Bard." About this time, he sold this second paper, returned to Washington County, and was appointed the registrar of voters, a very powerful political position.

In this position in 1871, he desired to run for Mayor of Fayetteville, but the Fayetteville Democrat (predecessor of our present paper) began to chide him at being five feet high and six feet in circumference - clearly a little rotund for mayor. James M. (Mid) Pittman, a Democrat and later our circuit judge, desired to be mayor, but Bard, as registrar and the boss of all elections, refused to allow a lot of Pitman's friends to vote, and they went off and formed another voting booth. Bard reported the results to Little Rock as shown by the booth he controlled, and we had a radical mayor for a while - standard carpetbagger procedure.

While in Fayetteville one of the ladies of town published a letter in the Fayetteville Democrat that this man's name was not Samuel Bard but was really Sylvester Beard. Surely for reasons of preventing identity, a number

of carpetbaggers changed their names on coming South. Bard never made an answer to this charge.

The records of the Georgia Historical Association seems never to have had any knowledge of Bard's connections with Washington County Arkansas, nor did the people here ever mention that he left for Georgia. When he left here, he was just happily forgotten until he brought his fat self back. He left the political scene here in the winter of 1872 and never came back, except to dispose of some of his real estate holdings.

Again, Bard returned to Georgia. On March 2, 1874, President Grant appointed him postmaster of Atlanta. However, about 1877 President Hayes, in keeping with his promise to clean up conditions in the South, appointed another man to the position. While still in Georgia, Bard sold the balance of his Washington County real estate and left for Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He died there in the yellow fever epidemic September 18, 1878.

A quick look at Bard's voting record in the General Assembly of 1868 indicates that he was fairly independent, voting a number of times with the Southern viewpoint, but more often with the radicals. His threat to try to make the penitentiary uniforms the same as Confederate grey could have been only in jest. He performed no purely derogatory act against the state. It perhaps can be said that he was a capable, cantankerous adventurer. His activities here were just a minor part of his hectic career.

References:

1. Letter from Franklin M. Garrett, Director, Atlanta, Georgia, Historical Society of January 30, 1973.
2. Washington County deed records.
3. *Atlanta and Its Environs*, Franklin M. Garrett, pages 684 & 5 and 884; University of Georgia Press, Athens. And above letter (1).
4. National Archives and Record Service, Washington, D. C., Letter, 12-6, 1972.
5. *Arkansas Gazette*, April 27, 1868.



CORRECTIONS

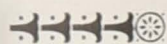
Gremlins in the printing process in the November 1978 FLASHBACK caused a couple of regrettable errors.

1. The author of "WCHS Goes to Jail" on page 1 was Carolyn Newbern.

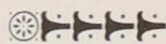
2. The title of the story on page 15 was "The Thomas Cook Family" and it was written by Vance O. Cook.

Our apologies to both!





OLD CIRCUIT COURT



by LLOYD MC CONNEL

Judge J. M. Pittman served as Circuit Judge for many years in the 1880's, and was on the bench when court convened in April 1888. The Sheriff was Geroge F. Deane, who lived out Mount Comfort way, and he had summoned the following persons to come sit on the Grand Jury.

T. Y. Epps, E. E. Hale, P. M. Gibson, Elery Clark, Joseph Powell, H. L. Pettigrew, A. A. Rickerts, L. H. Winstead, Ben Denton, Frank Posten, Anderson Sanders, John Pool, R. P. Harrison, C. M. Henry, W. C. Kuykendall, George Gibson, Sr., J. D. Grimes, Jacob White, William Mayes, and Jeff Mullens. Some of the jurors were elected school directors and were systematically excused, since their presence was often demanded at school meetings. George Gibson was appointed foreman, and it was his duty to question the witnesses, unless such procedure was taken over by the Prosecuting Attorney. The foreman called upon the jurors to vote yes or no on the question of an indictment.

Laws have since been passed whereby the Prosecuting Attorney can file an information instead of going before the Grand Jury, however the Judge may, and does, sometimes order a Grand Jury impaneled.

The April 1888 term of Circuit Court did not have outstanding or notorious criminal cases, so the work settled down to disposing of the many misdemeanors filed against some citizens. Charges of assault and battery, disturbing public worship, racing horses on the highways, and gambling occupied much of the court officials times. Small fines were levied, and once in a while some accused fellow demanded a jury trial.

The persons called to act as a trial or petit jury included Everett Jackson, H. A. Davis, W. R. Hester, William Cherry, William Shreve, Frank Dill, James Mock, Hiram Brewster, J. A. Fincher, T. J. Blakemore, E. M. Little, Luke Arnett, Robert Strain, J. H. Flood, T. P. Holt, Jasper Woodruf, John McCoy, A. J. Smith, John Tunstill, Daniel Thomason, Don Jack, J. C. Hattabaugh, T. H. Ragsdale, and Sam Williams. Road overseers were excused from jury service on most occasions. The jury had been selected by three prominent persons in the county who were widely acquainted with the residents, and it assured the defendants they would be tried by a jury of their peers as the law provided.

The law now directs the officials to draw at random several hundred names from the registered list of voters, the names placed in a rotating basket, and from that the names of some 100 or more persons are drawn who are questioned by the Court and accepted or discharged. It is an expensive method, because here comes the lame, the blind, the illiterate, and the well educated, but the Supreme Court must be satisfied.

George Hubbard was fighting, and the Court fined him \$10.00. Michael Danly paid \$5.00 for a breach of the peace. Taylor Howell was entitled to possession of a forty acre tract near Rheas Mill, which was being

unlawfully held by W. D. Powell. Some appeals from Justice of the Peace court were affirmed or dismissed.

A Special Judge was elected in cases wherein Judge Pittman was disqualified probably because he had been connected with some legal matters touching the parties charged. David M. West, after proper questioning by the Court, was admitted to practice law. Some years in College and examination by an examining board are now required before a license to practice law is issued.

Henry Funkhouser was charged with an assault to kill, but the grand jury refused to indict him. Nick Wax, J. D. Smith and N. C. Toney forfeited bonds of \$250.00 each, which were later set aside and the fines remitted, all except the costs in the cases.

J. D. Van Winkle was Administrator of the Estate of Peter Van Winkle, a pioneer in the County and operator of one of the largest sawmills in the county. S. K. Albright made a bond of \$750.00 after being charged with an assault to kill. W. W. Carter was also licensed to practice law. Orr and Whitney, a wholesale shoe company filed many collection suits from small merchants over the county. It may be the times were getting harder.

Green Hamilton was charged with murder, and since he was ordered held in the Madison County jail, the crime may have been committed there. The many witnesses were placed under strong bond for their appearance at his trial. They included J. Tassey, S. J. Cowan, S. W. Porter, James Richey, L. J. Coleman, Tabitha Richey, J. F. Hughes, J. M. Gilbert, W. W. Harris, William Bryant, Mike Cowan, John Davis, J. Hamilton, B. F. Shipley, M. A. Hamilton, W. F. Hamilton and B. A. Culman.

Felix Kimbrough, a merchant in the Dutch Mills area, was charged with selling liquor without a license. Vol English was included in the charge but was declared innocent. Mr. Kimbrough had sometime before been charged with selling what he called "bitters."

Cole Reed paid \$5.00 for a breach of the peace, D. S. Miller was freed by a jury on an assault and battery charge. Bud Miller paid \$25.00 for S & B., which may have been assault and battery. Wesley Johnson was fined \$5.00 for a disturbance. Buck Carlisle paid \$7.50 for engaging in a fracas, which reminds me that a recent TV new commentator reported a woman shot in the fracas, and the bullet was in her yet. This prompted a small boy to ask what is her fracas and what's her yet? Bet he never learned that it also damaged her "somewhat", whatever that is.

David Clark and Mary Canaday were charged with fighting and released. Haven't seen a good man and woman fight for years. Berry Graham forfeited bonds for disturbing public worship and fighting. Thomas Oxford gambled and paid \$5.00. The jury found John W. Charles and W. M. Tunstill not guilty of engaging in a gambling game, probably was only a game of Rook.

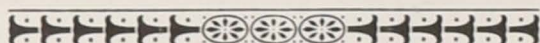
Ed Flood wore his guns to town and paid \$50.00 for the violation. Andrew Phillips also took his pistols along and it cost him \$50.00, plus the \$10.00 assessed for gambling. Willie Curtis was charged with carrying a pistol but was set free. He was fined for disturbing church and paid \$20.00. He paid a higher price a few years later on when he was killed in a fight at Pitkin.

Jim Willie Craig gambled and lost \$10.00 to the Court cash box. John Strickler disturbed church and paid \$20.00. Bent Phillips was fined \$20.00 for fighting. T. J. Hunt and S. J. Cunningham were seated on the trial jury to replace some members being discharged.

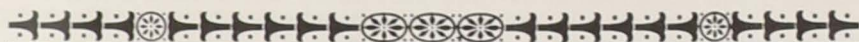
James Graham committed an assault to kill or injure and was given 30 days in jail plus a \$50.00 fine, which, unless paid, would be worked out on some public works at \$1.00 per day. Justice of the Peace W. H. Mayes, for failing to report all his cases tried, was fined \$20.00. Monk Hayes wore weapons and was fined \$50.00. Seems all the young bucks like to wear pistols, but the Courts kept trying to discourage it. Bob Johnson was in contempt of Court and was fined \$20.00.

The court was still in session when a robbery occurred and the suspects were brought into court. A special Grand Jury was called to indict them, because the regular grand jury had been discharged. R. A. Bean, H. L. Williams, Martin Garrett, James Lusk, John Edmiston, W. C. Cardwell, John Scott, William Turner, Frank Thomas, John Curry, Bud Moore, Pres Crawford, Frank Smith, Frank Buie, James Carter and George Benton returned an indictment and the men were convicted. Charles Williams, Andrew John and Ben Younger were sentenced to prison terms.

I remember when Dad was a Justice of the Peace at Sulphur City, and I was about 8 years old, the officers brought in a couple of fellows who had robbed a small country store and were carrying sacks of foodstuffs, beans, bacon, rice, sugar, etc., and the two officers wore pistols that seemed 15 inches long. The men were ordered taken to the County Jail. Bet their families did not have any goodies for Christmas.



Mrs. Charles W. Appleby, Mrs. William M. Briscoe, Mrs. Charles H. Borough, Mrs. Carles C. Carrol, Mrs. J. Wainwright Evans, Mrs. Allen G. Flowers, Miss Eileen Hamilton, Mrs. Bruce Holcomb, Mrs. Roswell S. Lander, Mrs. Belle Magruder, Mrs. Martin Nelson, Mrs. Homer L. Pearson, Mrs. Frank Peel, Miss Florida Reed, Mrs. James J. Read, Mrs. Edgar F. Shannon, Mrs. Raymond C. Thompson, Mrs. Louis D. Riddel, Mrs. Richard B. Willis were members of The Twentieth Century Club of Fayetteville in 1914-1915.



MORE PRAIRIE GROVE LITERATURE

The following version of the ballad commonly known as *The Ballad of Prairie Grove* was found in the booklet *Old, Old Folk Songs*, compiled by Fred High, a well known balladeer from High, Arkansas, near Berryville. *Folksongs* is in the Washington County Historical Society's Tom Feather's Memorial Collection, and was originally given to Lessie Stringfellow Read by Mr. High. High's signature is on the title page. While this version was collected by High, the notation indicates it was written out by N. C. Mills.

Battle of Prery Grove

*Come all U sons of Iowa come listen to my song
if youl lend attionteon i will not detain U long
tis of the galent charge we made at prerry Grove
there against Rebel forces ore our numbers told
Our officers being brave they led us with good will
With volly after volly we made our shots to tell
altho we were out numbered we charged them up the hill
till our brave luntant counral & Magor Ginrel feel
Through bloody fields we waded where cannons did roar
& many a brave commander lay bleeding in his gore
& heaps meng soldiers were bleeding on the way
who were killed & wounded by the nineteenth Ioway
They fought us very bravely in hopes to gain the day
untill Blunts nobel artillary on them began to play
it gave them such a Hazard it put them all to flight
& they withdrew ther forces by the covering of the night
Next morning we were sorry to see those Rebbles wives
Hunting their dead husbands such meancoly cries
& sisters finding brothers rang their hands & crise
But now this war is over the soldier rest from toil
We bury our dead in order beneath the suthern soil
We berred Our dead in order & form a desprade
With a bord to each mans head to show where he was laid.*

Editor's Note:

A more sophisticated version of this ballad was published in "Two Ozark Civil War Ballads", *Mid South Folklore*, Vol. V, N. 3, Winter, 1977, pp. 113-115. The author, James J. Johnston, notes that the ballad is catalogued Laws dA 38 as it was cited in Vance Randolph, *Ozark Folksongs*. (Columbia: State Historical Society of Missouri, 1946), II, p. 275. Johnson also notes that the *Biography of John W. Morris* (Marshall, AR, 1916), written by his daughter Mrs. J. N. Bromley, cites the ballad. Morris told his daughter that one of the soldiers of the Iowa contingent made up the song, and sang it for the Union troops the morning after the battle. Yet another version, titled *A SONG BALLAD*, was published by W. J. Lemke in a booklet for the Civil War Round Table of Chicago. Lemke identifies the author of the ballad as John M Wyatt, a member of the 19th Iowa Regiment. Lemke believes the song was written in 1865 as he had access to what was supposed to be the original dated manuscript. ("Come All You Sons of Ioway", Booklet published by the Washington County Historical Society as a souvenir of the visit of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago to the Prairie Grove Battlefield, April 21, 1967, p. 9.) This publication is available at the Washington Co. Historical Society Office, 118 E. Dickson, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

QUERIES

Mrs. B. O. Penney, 4850 Briarbend, Houston, TX 77035 needs help in proving grandfather JOHN MOCK WEST served in Confederacy. Do any of you readers have proven records on the 3rd Cherokee Regiment C.S.A.? Do you know of research material that gives more detail on the 5 Indian Tribes than is given in the pamphlet "The Battle of Pea Ridge, 1862" reviewed by Park Supt. Texas State Archive has furnished me copy of "Soldier's Application for Pension" with rejection as follows: "War Department, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, May 26, 1915. No record has been found in this office of an organization known as the 3rd Cherokee Regiment, C.S.A. and no record has been found of the capture or parole of a man named John M. West. Sworn excerpts: John M. West enlisted, not conscripted, late 1862 with 3rd Cherokee Regt. Bryant's Battalion, Beatty's Company, Weighty's Brigade (do not know how to spell "Weighty's" name). Discharged end of War, Fort Smith, Ark. Deposition: G. W. Edmiston, age 67, born and raised in Washington Co. Ark., present residence Decatur, Benton Co., Ark. Have known J.M. West from boyhood near Viney Grove Ark. We served together in Capt. Beatty's Co. (F, I think) Bryant's Regt. He was a private. Disbanded end of War by Col. Bryant, Fort Smith." My comment: I think "Weighty" is for Stand Watie.

Selma Grimmer, Box 180, Moreland, Idaho, 83256, would like to locate information on the parents of Mathew Thornsby who was born about 1807 in Kentucky and buried in Benton County around 1867. His wife was Mary Elizabeth Tabor.

Mrs. W. J. Little, 1318 South Reno, El Reno, Oklahoma 73036. My Great Grandfather George BILTON, at age 12, ran away from England and came to America, according to family story. Does anyone have story of following people? "English 1815 to 1818, William HALE, Leah HALE, James KERT, Thomas KERT, Adam BATIE, Samuel BLAKE, George W. BILTON, William CUMMINS, a Presbyterian (Presbytery) fled Crown on account of Catholic persecution, located in New York." • I find these names in Washington County, Arkansas. George BILTON in 1821 Tax List of Crawford County, Arkansas listed as George BRITTON; 1829 Sheriff's Census Washington County, as George BELTON; 1830 Census Washington County as George BUTTON; 1840 Census Washington County, Vineyard Township: George BILTON, Males 3 Under 5, 1 10 under 40; Females 1 10 Under, 1 20 under 30 3 people in Family,

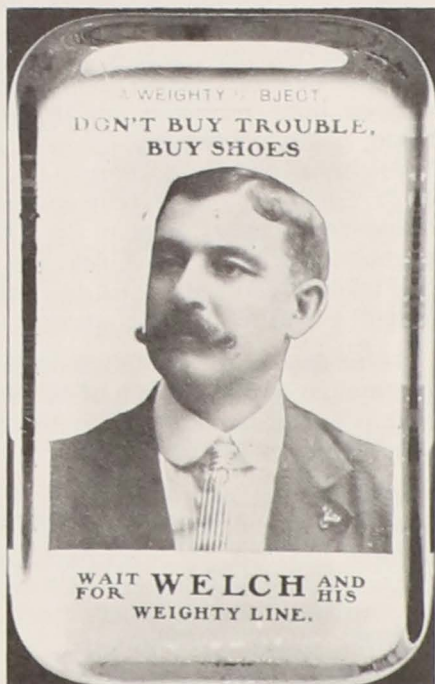
Agriculture. • George BILTON received 10 March 1843, Preemption Certificate No. 4024, SE ¼ Sec 3 Twp 13N R33W, 160 Acres, John TYLER, President. • One George BILTON family from Yorkshire England, the Hull Section, settled in South Caroline, numerous families there today. • George BILTON married Nicey OLIVER, daughter of Joel and Celia VAUGHN OLIVER. He died about 1845-6, probably buried in Old Vineyard Cemetery near Vineyard Church at foot of mountain where they lived. • Five BILTON children: George Washington, no record; Benjamin Franklin married Mary NUNNALLY; Thomas Oliver, no record; Celia married Thomas DUNAGIN; Mary Jane, my Grandmother, married Jesse Hardy MITCHELL. Have information to exchange. Will appreciate any help.

John C. Garrett, 290 Belair St., Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950 is anxious to locate the graves of his grandparents, James B. and Charity Garrett. Believed to be in the Goshen-Mayfield-Wesley area east of Fayetteville. Gravestones were standing in 1944. If located please contact Lloyd McConnell, 421 West North St., Fayetteville, Ark. 72701.

Bourke Welch, Jr. (22719 Stagg Street, Canoga Park, California 91304) seeks any knowledge of his grandfather, Edgar Welch, born September 23, 1865 in Washington County - state unknown. He died at Mayo Brothers Clinic February 2, 1911.

Edgar lived in Springdale in the 1890's until approximately 1906, at which time he moved to Hutchison, Kansas. Edgar married Anna Dell Parks (date unknown), daughter of William Bradley Parks. Issue of Anna and Edgar, Bourke Welch, (10/19/1899-6/?/68).

Edgar Welch was a salesman for the Brown Shoe Company while living in both Hutchison and Fayetteville as suggested in the reproduction of a paper weight now in possession of his grandson. The photo suggests he was a member of the Elks (see pic), but this was not confirmed by Hutchison or Fayetteville B.P.O.E. From newspaper accounts of his death, Edgar was a well-liked traveling salesman. Any help from anyone who recognizes his picture accompanying this query, or whose memory is jogged by the information, would be appreciated. Normal search fees will be paid.



WILLIAM QUESENBURY'S DIARY

Edited by PAT DONAT

EDITOR'S NOTE: The series on William Quesenbury's Diary continues with this issue and finds "Bill Cush" embarking on the overland journey to the California goldfields with a contingent from Cane Hill and the Cherokee Nation. The diary is published verbatim through the courtesy of Duke University where the original is on file.

Gold fever struck Cane Hill in April 1850 and one of those who succumbed was Bill Cush who edited the Southwest Independent in Fayetteville after he returned. Notations made by his wife, Adaline, were published in the November Flashback.

It is not surprising that he succumbed. He had a well-developed, and chronic, case of wanderlust and it would have been more surprising if he had not been among the men who left April 9.

Quesenbury does not list the men who left with him but there must have been quite an exodus from Cane Hill that spring. A second group of 24 Cane Hill men left the same month and went to Carthage, Mo. where they took the northern route to the goldfields. Howell Hodges was among this company and wrote an account published in Vol. 18, No. 3, August 1968 Flashback. James Hagood is the only man mentioned by both Hodges and Quesenbury.

On the first day of January 1850, after a break of several years (from 1846-1850), Quesenbury resumed his diary which had begun with his trip to Mexico with the Cherokees in 1846. During the period when he was not keeping a diary he married Adaline Parks of the Cane Hill area on Nov. 8, 1847 and their first child, Stanley, was born. Quesenbury is reputed to have taught art at Cane Hill College during this interval but he does not mention this association.

His diary begins:

January 1, 1850 (Tuesday)

Edward Washbourne visited us. He remained till after dinner and then went to Mr. Orr's.

NOTE: Edward Washbourne is Edward Payson Washbourne, son of Rev. Cephas Washburn and brother of J.W. Washbourne. It is interesting to note that Quesenbury spells the name as adopted by J.W. and not the way the father and Edward did. Edward is the painter of the famous Arkansas Traveler painting. Mr. Orr is probably Edward's uncle who was with Rev. Washburn at Dwight Mission and had married Washburn's sister.

January 2 (Wednesday)

Nothing done. I went a hunting on the mountain by the old Holt place. Saw nothing.

January 3 (Thursday)

About ten Mr. Pylant came. He bought the Presbyterial Records for me to transcribe. In a few moments Cheshire rode up, said there were turkies back of the field. Took my gun, went and found them in the road. Shot, killed one and wounded another very badly. Cheshire hunt the dead one in a sapling and we went out to hunt the other. Couldn't find it. Came back. Mr. Pylant remained till after dinner. I went a hunting after he left. Saw nothing. Stanley unwell--cutting teeth.

NOTE: Pylant

January 4 (Friday)

Went over to Perry Parks. From there to the Kingly (Bingley?) by way of Uncle Mark's and Kirby's. There was a sale at Kirby's.

NOTE: J.P. Parks, 25, is listed as a household head in the 1850 census at Cane Hill. Uncle Mark is Mark Bean who married Nancy Parks a sister of Adaline's. Uncle Dick is Richard H. Bean. Kirby

January 5 (Saturday)

Went to Uncle Mark's to get the little mare shod. Snowed hard. The mare goat away by the Frog---bottom.

January 6 (Sunday)

Went over to Uncle Dick's with W. Formsbe (?). We were late for Sunday School. Eliza came about 12. Home in the evening. This morning sent Sam for the mare that got away yesterday. Got a letter from (illegible).

January 7 (Monday)

Oxen lost the bow of their yoke. Couldn't find it.

With that note Quesenbury, like many other diarists stopped making daily entries to resume them on April 9 when he departed for California. His notations give no indication of a tearful farewell but does convey the understated excitement he must have felt when embarking on such a journey.

April 9 (Tuesday)

Left Uncle Mark Bean's after breakfast with Mr. Mitchell. Came on to Cincinatti. Drunken place. Got me a buckskin.

To Illinois. Wagons two hours ahead ---- ----- to get to the shop where Crum's wagon had gone to get the -----welded. Wagons already gone. Followed. Found I had got lost and had gone ---- -----out of the way. At length I got into the right road, overtook the company about a mile from -----mill.

NOTE: Mitcheel Crum

April 10 (Wednesday)

Mule hurt yesterday. Couldn't haul. Put Prince in. Works well. Crossed a prairie and camped. One of Ross' negroes with a mule team camped with us. He was going to mill.

April 11 (Thursday)

Went on and got to Martin's. Found Ross. On the way today some of the boys got a squirrel up a tree and killed it. Camped down below Lewis Ross' store.

NOTE: Lewis Ross was a brother of John Ross, principal chief of the Cherokees. His store was the principal establishment at Grand Saline. His store was the principal establishment at Grand Saline, located about a mile south of Saline in Mayes County. It was an important rendezvous for emigrants to California.

April 12 (Friday)

Waked up and found my pony gone. Stolen of course. Hunted--- couldn't find him. Boys also hunted. Some of the boys found a lake. Several of us went down to it. Great many water birds. Some killed by those in the boat. Nothing on pony.

April 13 (Saturday)

Spent a long day in crossing grandview. Got over at length and came out in the prairie two miles or more to a camping place.

April 14 (Sunday)

Laid by today. Wrote letters back.

April 15 (Monday)

This morning we got a good start. Came on without much interruption till we got to Pryor's Creek. About a mile before we got here we took the wrong road and came to a bad bank in the creek. We should have taken the right hand.

Got back into the right road and soon afterwards came to an Indian's house where we got more corn. Camped on Pryor's Creek two miles from the Indian's.

April 16 (Tuesday)

Today has been a hard one on our teams. More holes and banks very bad. At length we came to the Verdigris River. The west bank was by far the most difficult we have seen yet. Got two wagons over--ours and Shipley's. The ox team company assisted some by pulling at the ropes.

They have, unasked, proffered to help us with a hundred yoke oxen if we want them. Fiddling in the ox team company tonight. Sam Coody in the prairie today driving up a large drove of cattle. He has five hundred young calves this spring.

April 17 (Wednesday)

The ox team company have refused us the acceptance they promised last night unless we bind ourselves to join their company and stick to them all the way. Don't accede. Got the wagons over without assistance or trouble. Got a new camping place about three hundred yards from the ox camp. Went a fishing in the evening with William Oliver, (John Gott) and ---Bean. Caught nothing. Saw Beaver-toter in the --- ----- . He had a

Cherokee with him on a pony which I tried to buy. He said he would be back and let me know. -----tonight for the first time.

NOTE: Many California-bound trains ran into friction because it was not possible to keep the faster horse and mule drawn wagons and slower oxen train in one cohesive unit.

April 18 (Thursday)

Wind blowing cold from the N. Prospect of very bad weather. Our road from the Grand Saline to the Santa Fe road is good with a few unimportant----- . Here I will suggest that the best way to save distance would be to steer a straight course to Ft. Vrain. All those acquainted with the region say there is no impediment. This would shorten the distance not less than 200 or 600 miles from here to Ft. Vrain. The S. Platte river probably (has) a ferry, taking a W. course, probably 20 m. to Box Elder, a tributary of the Cachide la. Poudre (Powder River). Here our trail, unless the Black Hills (intervene) would pass a bluff several hundred feet high on the right of the road and then (follow) on a small tributary of the Cache. Probably a mile or more to the stream, then on to the left hand, unless it was ascertained the right hand is the best and leads to the Laramie plains. By keeping nearly N. (we) would strike our trail some ten miles in the plains but would miss some good springs that we passed in those deep ravines. Our trail is probably on the best route from here to Medicine Bow Creek. After crossing the Creek lake to the right and leaving the Medicine Bow butte to the left, and there (turning) nearly N.W. (we would) cross North Platte which will probably fe a ferry. This would leave the Sweetwater Mts. to the right and we would pass them as near to the left as possible until they enter the Alkaline Plains then steer nearly west to the Pilot Butte, a mountain in shape like a wash bowl inverted. From this it is probably 25 miles to Green River which is close to the road. Lying by. Horses grazing. Rain at night. No ----.

NOTE: Quesenbury apparently used a break in travel to work up a time table for the journey. He has two pages of various stops with mileage figures. The information is headed Rendezvous at Grand River. According to Marcy and the Gold seekers written by Grant Foreman and based upon the journal of Captain R.B. Marcy the Arkansas emigrants reached the Verdigris River and found it too high to ford but, with the help of Osage Indians living nearby constructed a water craft out of buffalo skins to transport their baggage. The stock and wagons were then successfully gotten across. Here they joined a party under the command of C.V. (Clem) McNair. "Craig's company were camped 12 miles ahead."

April 19 (Friday)

Mr. Craig and others went to view out our way ahead. Got my horse ready to go with them. Wouldn't let me ride him. Bad today. Mays roaded him afterwards, whipped him down into the tundra. Went up with Crum and others to graze the animals in the bottom.

Rained hard. Built a fire. Some of the ox team company came down. Back. Dinner. Today Perry (Parks) and myself commenced cooking.

NOTE: J.T. Craig remained in California until May 1851, but not meeting success returned via Isthmus and in June 1851 married Elizabeth Russell and resumed his business at Cincinnati.

April 20 (Saturday)

Got ready and started. Ox teams off alone on the top of the hill in the prairie. We left trail taking to the right. Waited twenty minutes for the -----pecans who have actually-----. Came on without trouble till we got to a creek about four miles from the one where we were camped. On the last fork we will -----.

Some went fishing, nothing but little perch. I caught 32. Started with Craig today to view out the way. The little black mule followed some distance but hurried back. I came to camp in spite of it. Then went a fishing.

An express from Meigs got off. I wished---I wished---I had never (even) heard of, or been connected with the company. Mitchell talking of taking a short (cut) for Council Grove.

NOTE: Return J. Meigs, a Cherokee was a member of John H. Wolf's company.

April 21 (Sunday)

Laid by today. Some are still discontented and talk of leaving Mr. May thought of preaching in the evening but declined. Wrote letters back home.

NOTE: J.J. May was listed in the 1850 census as being 23 years old and living in Cane Hill

April 22 (Monday)

Went a fishing down the creek. Caught two small trouts and three fine cats. Mr. Mitchell brought me a trout. He and Strickler fished with me. Went as far as the mouth of the creek.

April 23 (Tuesday)

Lying by yet eating up our provisions. I went up the creek today with Gott; who soon left me. I went higher up and caught four of the very finest kind of trouts.

Meigs and Cunningham got up this evening. Fished again at night with May, Shipley, Gott and Shipley caught a gar. Got a cat.

(continued page 18)





Unidentified photographs from the collection of **Dolly Sitton Bentley**
If you recognize any of these people or places, contact the **Flashback** with details.



April 24 (Wednesday)

Several of us went up again a fishing. Shipley and myself headed the long-----Jo Williams and myself made a raft and floated about on it. I caught a trout. Brought my raft over to the old sycamore and left it.

April 25 (Thursday)

Started and came on till we met Coody. He then guided us to the present camp. Eleven wagons are at the river. Went down to a drove of Osage horses. An Indian was washing them in the creek. There was only one good mule.

Back and camped. Broke a stick over an Osage's head. Considerable excitement in camp about it. Thought I had more enemies than friends, though my friends, few as they were, are worth a prairie full of traitors such as opposed me.

April 26 (Friday)

Coody came over just after an Osage had run his horse against me. Then wanted to sqap. Wouldn't do it. Perry went back with Coody. Maj. Mitchell and some others went ahead to view out the way.

It might-----came back-----I possibly----in atonement-----that he had given.

April 27 (Saturday)

We got started early. (Alfred) Cunningham lagged behind ---- ----along. Some of the ---- ---- last night lost a mule. Jim Pierce was-----. There are two ox teams, four cows and three bulls.

Camped along the same stream we came to (the) day before yesterday. Meigs, Cunningham and others below us. Fished in the evening for trout, caught none. A chap of the last----fished with me with cheese for bait.

April 28 (Sunday)

Laid by. Some of the newcomers went a hunting. In the evening at 3 o'clock Mr. May preached-----.

April 29 (Monday)

Excitement about going ahead. Some are disaffected. A meeting was held. Cunningham elected wagon master. Meighs, Gott and others refused to go on. Our same old crowd, except Shipley, went with us. Crossed the creek just at our came (fifty or a hundred yards above) and struck N.W. for Evans' Trail. Came to it in about three miles, just opposite a long mound. Came on about twelve miles and camped, i.e. 12 miles from where we struck the trail. Camped to the right of the road on a branch. The ox teams had been there before us. No game yet. Rogers wagon tongue broke today.

NOTE: Foreman lists other officers elected at the meeting. They were Clement Vann McNair, captain; Robert Harris, lieutenant; John Gott, sergeant of the guard; John H. Wolf, secretary. In addition rules were

promulgated outlining the duties of each officer. "The travelers lingered several days on the 'south prong of the Verdigris', grazing horses and oxen."

McNair was a member of the Cherokee National Council and a member of the delegation of 1846 to Washington D.C. Harris headed a company from Washington and Crawford counties and was an experienced mountaineer who spent half of his life in the Rocky Mountains. Wolf left a young wife and son to go to California to get money to educate son but was an old man when he visited the Cherokee Nation. He died in California.

April 30 (Tuesday and last)

Country rolling. Evans kept all the----he could find. Crawford's waybill useless as we do not know the names of his camps from the landmarks. We pass about two camps a day of the ox team company.

Camped on the S. side of the road. Water down in the hollow. Black jack timber. Lewis Evans.

May 1 (Wednesday)

Got a mule from Craig to work in the wagon. Very wild. Mays and myself staid back packing. The little black mule hard to drive. Our way is still on the Divide. Come to a spot of timber and camped on the right of the road. The pack men who joined us on Monday morning are still with us.

May 2 (Thursday)

Early start. Our road is crooked, very. Sometimes south and southwest, still on the Divide. Got to Evans old camp. No grass. Came up the creek. Raining all day at intervals.

Craig and myself went ahead to find a camping place. Ascended very high land. Rained, cold wind high. Went on till we believe the chance for camping bad. Turned back and camped at eight miles above Evans' camp to the left of the road.

Soon after we got here three or four osages came into camp. Twenty others came and in about (a short) time sixty or seventy more. Our camp was in a pefect hubbub. Perry ran and brought our animals and tied them to the wagon. The animals of some of the others were frightened off, but in about three quarters of an hour they were brought back; two or three of our men and several Osages having gone after them. Great talk--high talk --simple talk---all kinds of talk in our camp now. The Osages came two or three hundred yards above ---- ----camped ----. Rained all night. Move wagons and ((took) tents down.

NOTE: Lewis Evans was captain of an emigrant train to California which included many Fayetteville and Washington County men in April 1949.

May 3 (Friday)

Our red brethren went off this morning. Those that came to see us had on dry blankets.

Mitchell and his mess left us this morning and went ahead. The wind blows extremely cold from the N. I believe it is decided to remain here till the company behind comes up.

Our wagons are close together and three of our messes cook at the same fire. Wind continues cold; the Indian talk continues unabated. Rained at night.

May 4 (Saturday)

Wind continues cold; had veered a little to the E. Potts made a discovery of wagons and Wm. Oliver and Jo Williams of a spy, both of which inconveniences proved false.

We are disagreeably situated. It is uncertain when the wagon will get up. There is some talk this morning, half earnest, half joke, about going back.

No one hunts, in fact, it is useless to do so as the deer must be lying down and the turkies all squatted. No animal of our climate can stand this wind and thrive.

May 5 (Sunday)

Some talk about going back. As far as I am concerned, I shall not. Rogers and McQuarter went off today, returned with the news that they had found fine grass. Geared up and went to it, four miles and a half off. The near here is a head branch of the Verdigris. Water very clear. Went down and grazed the animals.

In suspense about the future--have no confidence whatever in any management, such as we have, of affecting anything.

May 6 (Monday)

Early this morning heard a turkey gobbling up the creek. Started for him but two others started also. Quit the hunt and got after prairie hens. Killed none. After breakfast Mr. May and McQuarter left us to hunt up the rear wagons.

Henry Hays and myself took our guns, went over the reidge and shot a time or so at prairie hens. Made for the creek. Found an excellent fishing hole. Fished some but they weren't biting. ----there. On--- ---- came back we came across Hays who had lodged a squirrel. Shot it out.

NOTE: Quesenbury doesn't mention it but Marcy's journal indicates that on May 6 the train was joined by Samuel Mayes, John Lowrey Brown, George Washington Adair and 20 other cherokees with 12 wagons plus 40 whites from Missouri and Arkansas. Brown kept a dairy giving brief accounts of his journey published in the Chronicles of Oklahoma Vol. XIII.

For some reason, and it is rare he missed, Quesenbury did not make an entry for May 7.

May 8 (Wednesday)

This morning Craig and Shipley went back to meet the wagons. Nearly all the others are off grazing the animals. I'm baking bread.

This is the most backward spring I ever experienced. Some of the trees are in full bloom and some have scarcely budded. The nights are chilly, the wind tolerably constant, either from N. or S. and equally as cold from one point as the other.

At about eleven o'clock several Osages visited us. They had buffalo meat and were travelling to their towns. Perry tried to trade for a pony, but did not succeed. One of the Indians tried to ride the little black mule but he couldn't. Buckner gave them his dog but they wouldn't take it off. Went a fishing up the creek. Caught nothing. Craig came back. The oxen company is willing that we travel before, behind or with them. They are camped nearby at Evans camp last year.

May 9 (Thursday)

Started about 8 o'clock. Saw the wagon train of the other company going on. Got with them at the foot of the hill near our old camp. We now have thirty-five wagons along. Bought a horse from Merrill today.

Camped about a mile and a half west of the ox train camp.

Our whole Cane Hill crowd are stationed (on) the outside seam of the line of encampment. This is Wagon Master Cunningham's work.

NOTE: Marcy's journal states that 21 more men with five wagons joined the party on this date. This made in all 105 whites and Cherokees, 12 of whom were women and 15 Negro servants, equipped with 34 wagons all commanded by Clem McNair. John Beck, Weatherford (Ludge) Beck, Brice Hildebrand, Joe Spears, Eagle and John Clark, Cherokees were in the party.

May 10 (Friday)

Some animals lost this morning. Got with a detachment ahead to work out a plan of encampment. Doubtful as to our travelling----today. Rained last night. Another norther is blowing. Cold as usual. One of the---branches are budding, some are not. The redbuds are in bloom.

The spade that Mr. Mitchell had of Rogers we found in the road sticking up as he left it. Yesterday a prairie dog was heard barking. This is the first sign of them. The detachment reported grass some four miles ahead.

Geared up and went to it. Found it excellent. Tonight we are placed just in the path, more of Cunningham's work.

May 11 (Saturday)

Got off about--- ----. This day travel has been over the best road we have been on since we left. The country is becoming settled. About eight miles from last night's camp we crossed a creek as large as the one we camped on. No one without much chance for water. Got a cup of it from -

-- -----in the bottom (rest of sentence faded.) This creek is called Cotton Wood. Evans called is Fire Creek. Camped on the opposite side from -----.

May 12 (Sunday)

Laid by. Attending to our animals. Circumstances have become so unpleasant that a (seven words faded) there has been a constant irritation about everything --- ---- ----(four words faded), be done right; pallets can't be made right nor anything else. Such a state of things render the trip most unpleasant. Mr. May preached about 11 o'clock. I did not hear him. John Pierce and myself had taken a walk down the creek. A great many of the company are off hunting and fishing. Some black squirrels have been killed. Patilla killed the first turkey yesterday evening. Vegetation seems somewhat more advanced here but the redbuds are not out of bloom.

May 13 (Monday)

Still at the same camp. Will not move today on account of some sickness. Merrill was caught asleep on guard last night.

Went down about----with my horses to the bottom. Back to breakfast. About eleven o'clock Newton Shipley went with me up the creek to graze horses and hunt. Got after a squirrel which ran into a hole in an elm, at the round. I smoked it out. Newton broke the ramrod of his gun and we came back to camp. Jones came by us in the bottom with four squirrels--two of which were black.

Some are in a notion to go back home. Hope they will that I may send letters by them.

May 14 (Tuesday)

Merrill was tried last night for sleeping on picket. Found guilty but the Committee remitted his fine cost. McNair resigned on account of the proceeding. This morning a new election was held and McNair elected again. Got off about 9 o'clock. Ox team started in advance.

Came to a small creek where Mitchell and Crum had camped and we nooned on the far side. Stopped one hour and a half before sunset. The ox team had camped on the other side of the creek.

This morning has been the first that was comfortable without fire. The day was truly warm.

NOTE: Merrill was probably discovered asleep by John Gott, sergeant of the guard whose duty it was to mount the guard and visit them once every night. A committee of 12 was vested with jurisdiction to punish all offenses and violations of regulations. This probably is the Committee Quesenbury referred to that remitted the fine.

May 15 (Wednesday)

Old Man Dean broke his axle yesterday. Making a new one this morning. The bottoms on this creek are small. The wild rye is not abundant as it has been. Vast quantities of gooseberry bushes are in bloom; they are precisely like those at home are. Left at about half past-----. The road is level, enough for a railroad. No timber can be had. Buffalo signs have appeared. Antelope are seen and chased. At two hours by sun made "Buffalo Chip Camp". Found piles of buffalo chips that Evans' company had gathered last year.

Left my pipe where I grazed today after I had gone a mile I missed it. Went back and got it. Shot at a striped prairie rat on the way but missed it. The pony jerked my arm as I fired.

At about 8 o'clock an order came to bring our horses closer tonight. Caught mine up closer and staked them.

Buckner discovered fresh Indian signs not far off which was the cause of the present order. The water at this camp has a state as disagreeable as Glauber Salts. All our victuals taste of it.

At about ten a row was raised among the horses. All hands jumped up. Some horses were loose. In a short time order was restored.

May 16 (Thursday)

Got a tolerably early start. Country barren and destitute of timber. One tree a mile and half from our camp this morning and another some three miles from the road to the left, were the only trees we have seen today.

Houston Shipley and myself came ahead. Five antelopes crossed the road just before us and came galloping round to cross back. Houston waited for them to stop and just before they did an inconsiderate chap banged away just behind Houston and frightened them off.

Saw two buffaloes today. They were about three miles off.

The old Negro Harry entertained me for a long time with Indian war tales, a great many things that I knew to be lies. Stopped at a sluggish stream but the water is incomparably better than that we had last night. The wagons came up in about three hours. Camped. This is one of Evans camps--Bon de Vache-----tonight and not a spring of grass to mix with it.

Patilla and some others have killed some very large bull frogs with which they are being epicures, intend to have some dainty eating.

At night a disturbance arose about a separation in the company. A meeting was called. Everybody excited. Some determined to go ahead; some to lag back. About ten a considerable fandango was in full operation in the Square. Gras is short here. Some few hunted prickly pears. Rushes are shooting up on the slope of the prairie.

The camp fires of Evans camps have left traces that are perfectly visible. so plain that I thought the ox team had camped here.

NOTE: According to Marcy's Journal this occurred when the train reached the intersection of Captain Evans' route with the Santa Fe Trail. The organization failed to work together "harmoniously and efficiently". The party split and most of the Cherokees, including Return Jonathan Meigs, John Ross, Joseph Coodey, Ben Sanders and 16 others all well equipped traveled ahead with 19 wagons. The slower ones brought up the rear.

(To be continued in next issue)

FROM THE FLASHBACK FILES

In 1979 the *Flashback* will be twenty-eight years old, a fact that reminds us the journal itself is history. With this in mind, we would like to turn to our files for a regular feature and reprint some of the short pieces and vignettes of the first editor, Walter Lemke. From the first *Flashback*, issued in March of 1951, Lemke writes:

Remembers First Broadcast Over KFMQ

In my first letter (Jan. 25) announcing the revival of the Washington County Historical Society, I ran some historical "oddities" down the margin of the letter. One was this item: "Do you know that KFMQ was the first wireless in Arkansas?" This touched a reminiscent vein in Fenner Stice and he came up with this contribution to county and state history: "And do you know who broadcast the first program over KFMQ? Henry Tovey. And do you know who the announcer was? Fenner Stice. It was the first test program and we offered a box of apples free to the person sending in a card or letter from the greatest distance. I think somebody in Colorado got it. The signal was not too plain but it was corrected the next day and listeners began writing in from quite distant points."

That's the way history is recorded. Something jogs the memory of someone who knows. He tells what he knows and *Flashback* prints it. And thus it is preserved for those who come after us.

Editor's note: Today's *Flashback* is appreciative of Walter Lemke's message. If his words have jogged your memory a bit, we would like to know it and share it. Just write down the conversation, the incident, the memory of a place or a person, and send it to *Flashback*, 118 E. Dickson, Fayetteville, AR 72701.



LINCOLN'S APPLE HERITAGE

By CONRAD Q. RUSSELL

Almost all of the early settlers who came to the area which includes Evansville, Dutch Mills, Morrow, Clyde, Cane Hill and Lincoln settled on government land which they bought or homesteaded. Some of them brought fruit trees with them. But very soon many of them were having nursery stock sent to them from their home states, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Georgia and others.

Many of the settlers came in 1827 and 1828. By the mid 30's many of them had orchards started. A number of them had learned the art of grafting and soon were developing nurseries. Some of the leading nurseries in the south part of this area were owned by Hagood and Company, D. M. Moore and son, J. B. Russell and Company. Near Evansville the Shannon family were said to have operated a nursery possibly in the early 1830's, one of the very early orchards. It was the Granville Shannon family who first grew the large light green apple, later called the Shannon Apple. It came from a bundle of nursery stock unlabeled and unclaimed.

The Shannon Apple was famous in this area for many years. The last Shannon apple trees known to be in the area were on the Russell farm at Cane Hill. A Mr. Armstrong once hauled a load of Shannon Apples from Cane Hill to San Antonio, Texas, by ox wagon, and sold them for enough to pay for his farm.

Moving north on what is now highway 45 was the nursery of James B. Russell. According to information given to the U.S.D.A. by a Mr. John B. Gill, this nursery must have been planted about 1833. Russell also planted 100 acres to orchard. In 1866 this farm passed to his son, J. B. Russell, and according to Good Spuds History, produced 25,000 bushels of apples, mostly Ben Davis. Russell also operated an evaporator drying 100 bushels per day. In the 1880's the farm sold to Samuel T. Cole, an orchardist of note. He operated the farm and orchard for many years. His was the last orchard on this place.

After his death the farm sold to J. W. Risley. The orchard was discontinued in the 1940's. The farm is now owned by Howard and Betty Colburn. Howard is the grandson of Risley. The farm is now operated as a chicken and beef interprise which is very successful.

Adjoining this farm to the south was the Kirby farm. Founded by Franklin Kirby, it was passed to his son Thomas who produced apples and was listed as a fruit grower of some note. The farm passed to his son Charles sometime before 1920, then to T. L. McColloch, cashier for the Bank of Lincoln, then to Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Clifford. It is presently owned by Howard Colburn. The orchard discontinued some years ago.

Henry Clay Pyeatte operated a good sized orchard and stock and grain farm. His son, James H. Pyeatte, bought the farm after his father retired. It is now a chicken and stock farm owned by Bryan Reed.

Just east of Cane Hill, Mr. Clem McColloch operated a farm with a large acreage of apples including 10 acres of Mamouth Black Twig and some 20 acres of Ben Davis. This farm is now in hay and pasture.

At New Hope, east of Cane Hill, is the old home of the Rev. Jesse Blair settled in 1829. This farm was operated after the Civil War by Alva West, son-in-law of Rev. Blair. He is listed as orchardist and farmer. Apples are no longer grown on this farm, now operated by Dennis Spencer.

The year 1907 was a good year for apples, probably the largest crop on record at that time. J. S. Edmiston and Son were buying and packing apples that year. When barrel makers went on strike and stopped the shipment of barrels to the packers, Edmiston and Son put in a barrel factory just south of the old bank building in Cane Hill and made barrels until the strikers came in and burned the factory.

Many apples were culled and barreled in the orchard. A vacant store in Cane Hill was used by some of the buyers for culling and barreling. Lines of wagons waiting to unload were a daily occurrence.

S. P. McColloch was a buyer for McHenry and Bryan of Fayetteville. His headquarters was the old two story canning and evaporating building, located on the lot where Bryan Reed recently built two new houses.

The culls from the packers were taken to the many evaporators in the area. Dried fruit was hauled into the towns where buyers would bid and buy.

On the old road from Cane Hill to Lincoln is a farm known as the Brewster farm. It is now owned by Forrest Rodgers. Samuel Carnahan settled on this farm in 1827. He brought some fruit trees with him and planted them that first year. One was a pear tree. It lived and bore fruit until some time in the 1920's.

Layfayette Brewster bought the farm from Carnahan and operated it as a fruit and grain farm. It passed to his son Boudinot (Bood), who enlarged the orchard and with good fruit growing practices developed one of the best orchards in the country. As a part of the Rodgers orchards, it is presently one of the fine orchards in the area. This farm has been producing apples for well over 100 years.

Some other sizable orchards were operated by James Ross, J. H. Moore, David Ross, R. H. Bean, William Rodgers, J. S. Edmiston and others not known at this time. All of these farms discontinued production of apples many years ago.

The nursery and orchard of D. M. Moore and son was located on what is known as the Charley Bain farm on the old Cane Hill-Lincoln road northwest of the Brewster farm. This was one of the very early nurseries.

Between the Brewster and Bain farms lie the W. G. Vincenheller farms. Vincenheller was an apple grower and buyer. I believe a part of his land is still owned by his granddaughter, Mrs. G. L. Byroade of Fayetteville. This land has long since ceased to produce apples.

The Holt family settled on the north Lincoln mountain in 1829 and were the first to plant a nursery in that area. Earl Holt, son of the pioneer John Holt, planted this first nursery. He also started a nursery on the Jim Ross farm near Cane Hill. Frank Holt, who has a fine orchard just north of Lincoln, produces summer champions, Jonathan, and red and yellow Delicious apples. Frank is a fourth generation apple producer in the Holt family. Frank's grandson, Barry Crudup, is interested in the apple business and may become an apple producer. The Holts are equipped to pack 800 to 1000 bushels per day.

A new and larger cider press has recently been constructed on the Holt farm. Cider is again becoming popular as an appetizer in restaurants and cafes as well as for family use.

The Pitts' orchards on Sugar Hill came into being in 1914 when S. C. Pitts brought the Steve Bates Farm and moved with his family to Arkansas. This farm was settled by Dr. Jacob Funkhouser in 1829, was sold to Frank Maloy then to Steve Bates who sold to Pitts.

Mr. Maloy is credited with planting the first orchard on this place probably in the 1870's. Mr. Pitts became interested in apple production and added more land, buying the Tom Leach place in 1928 and the Dunlap place sometime later. Pitts' Sugar Hill Fruit Farm grew rapidly and during its peak reached 350 acres of producing orchard. The farm passed to Mr. Pitts' sons, Sterling, Robert and Belt in 1936 and was listed as Pitts Brothers Orchards.

In the 1940's the orchards were becoming less profitable, and as the trees were removed they were replaced by pure bred Polled Hereford cattle. The 750 acre ranch is now owned and operated by Sterling and his son Roger, as Pitts' Sugar Hill Ranch, producing beef and poultry.

Rodgers Orchards with headquarters in Apple Town on highway 62 east of Lincoln, Arkansas, is the largest apple producing enterprise in the area. Forrest Rodgers started the business in 1936. He is a third generation member of the Rodgers family to become a successful orchardist. His grandfather, William F. Rodgers, was a well known orchardist in 1876 with a good orchard near Cane Hill. His father, Aud Rodgers, established a home and orchard east of Lincoln in 1916.

The Rodgers Orchards with some 300 acres of bearing orchard are expecting to produce 100,000 bushels of apples this year. Much of the success in producing this crop of apples comes from a new system of irrigation, called "drip irrigation", which Rodgers and his sons-in-law, Ronnie Allen and Richard Watson, installed two years ago.

A number of growers have cold storage including Frank Holt, Rodgers Orchards, Crockett Wright and Dr. Forrest Tennant.

In the beginning the virgin soils of this area made fertilization unnecessary. The trees grew larger and stronger than those of today. The fruit was of good size and quality. No spraying was necessary for a good many years. From information I have been able to get, spraying started probably between 1880 and 1890.

Pruning is another major operation of the orchardist. This is done in the late fall and early winter after the harvest and the tree is dormant. Until recently this has been a job for a man with a sharp knife and a pruning saw. A power operated tree trimmer is now available. The Rodgers orchard on the Brewster place and the Holt orchard on Holt Road have been trimmed with a power trimmer.

The growers predict only about one-half to two-thirds of a crop this year. But the first will probably be larger and nicer. The prices will be as good or a little better than last year.

Apples once held the same position in the economy of this area that poultry holds today. They are still one of the best money crops in the Lincoln trade territory.



Library News and Notes

The Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, has recently compiled a twenty-six page listing of Arkansas genealogical source materials entitled "Arkansas Genealogy Bibliography". It includes a scope note and introduction, information on locations in the state offering genealogical assistance and lists the following types of materials based on the holdings of the Mullins Library: "how to" manuals, guides and directories, U.S. and Arkansas census publications from the 1930's to the 1880's, regional and county histories, and finally a lengthy county-by-county listing of numerous genealogical materials including mortality schedules, marriage records, population schedules, etc. A section on Family Genealogies and Memoirs concludes this bibliography. The cost is \$2.00. Please order copies from: Reference Department, Mullins Library, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

Ruby Johnson Wiedeman has compiled, edited and published a genealogy, *The Johnson Family, 1743-1978*, that deals with the Northwest Arkansas (and other) descendants of James and Rebekah Johnson through their sons William and Martin. 344 pages, illustrated and indexed, the book is revised and much enlarged version of the 1972 edition. If any of our readers would be interested in purchasing this material, the price is \$20.00, \$1.00 for mailing. Write: Mrs. Ruby Wiedeman, 7250 S.E. Sherman St., Portland Oregon 97215.

Limited editions in reproduction form of Goodspeed Publishing Company's *History of Washington County Arkansas* are now available for ordering from: Mr. J. Roger Huff, Rt. 2, Box 239, Siloam Springs, Arkansas 72761. These copies are sections of the original 1889 seven county history of Northwest Arkansas published by Goodspeed. It traces the history of the county from the Louisiana Purchase to 1888. Washington County at one time embraced all of what is now Benton County and parts of Madison and Carroll Counties. A new surname index is also included. The price is \$8.25 per copy, postage paid.

A collection of 250 books from the library of Virgil L. Baker, late professor in the Speech Department at the UofA, has been donated by the Baker family. Also included in the gift are 13 19th century newspapers from various United States' cities. One, *The New York Herald*, whole No. 10456, April 15, 1865, contains the story of Lincoln's assassination.



A standing antidote for Poison by oak, ivy, etc., is to take a handful of quicklime, dissolve it in water, let it stand half an hour, then paint the poisoned parts with it. Three or four applications will never fail to cure the most aggravated case.

From the Centennial Calendar distributed
by Dr. S.F. Paddock, Fayetteville, 1881



Marriages in 1886

by LLOYD MC CONNELL



Wedding bells rang out on December 24th for a Strickler couple, Henry Hammontree, 21 and Miss R. C. Smith, 20, in a ceremony performed by Rev. James Whitaker

H. G. Hartley, a Justice of the Peace, read the vows uniting William Hancock, 31, and Miss Mary E. Smith, 23, both of Springdale, on August 1st.

James Hankins of Richland, Missouri, and Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins, both 31, were married on May 17th, by Justice J. C. Massie of Fayetteville.

A. V. Hannah of Boonsboro, chose Miss Mattie Green, age 15 for an August 22nd wedding performed by J. Whitaker, M. G.

J. D. Hardyman and L. A. Reynolds, 29 and 19 years, of Fayetteville, went to the Rev. M. E. Butt for their June 14th tryst.

P. A. Harp, 24, and Miss Mattie Stone, 16, of Springdale, were wed on April 4, by William J. Harp.

West Forker H. T. Harris, 25, and N. J. Vinyard, 22, of Fayetteville, asked Justice of the Peace, J. F. Johnson to accomodate them on August 6th. He read the vows and pronounced them husband and wife.

Richard Hayner, 45, and Mrs. Mary Bozier, 26, of Fayetteville, went to Justice H. C. Hartley, who married them on June 3rd.

Fayetteville couple S. J. Hawkins, 21, and Miss Laura Fry, 19, were married in a ceremony by J. C. Massie, Justice of the Peace, on Sept. 24th.

B. D. Haws of Summers, 23 and Miss Lurie E. Davis 19, of Lincoln, chose September 30th for their wedding date with Elijah Randolph officiating.

Minister, James A. Anderson solemnized the affair for E. C. Heacock and Miss Ida Wood, both 25, of Springdale, on July 16th.

E. B. Heathcock and Miss Eva Nichols, 19 and 17 years of age, of Hazel Valley, were principals in a wedding on September 7th, by H. C. Osburn J.P.

Joseph S. Lane, a minister performed the service for Frisco residents, William Heiston and Miss Lucy C. Conner, 30 and 15 years, on June 3rd. The Frisco address is in Crawford County.

H. W. Hicks of Durant, 25, Indian Territory, and Miss Rachael Cardwell, 17, of Fayetteville, were married on December 24th by George W. Evans, M.G.

Couple came in from Hazel Valley, picked up their license and went back to their Local Justice, H. C. Osborne who married them on September 6th.

Lafayette Hille and Miss Nancy LeMasters of Delaney and Devore were married May 10th by Daniel Blevins. Hill was 23 and his bride 16. Delaney is in Madison County and Devore lies east of Winslow a few miles.

Thomas B. Hill and Miss Edith A Weekly, of Fayetteville vicinity, 21 and 17 years, were married by J. F. Johnson, a Justice of the Peace on May 21st. The wedding of Elm Springs couple William Holloway, 21, and Miss Maggie Coldiron, 18 years, was on April 22nd, with A. W. Wasson, a J. P. doing the service.

D. L Hood and Miss Maggie E. Brown, both 23, were wed in a Johnson Crawford ceremony on December 5th. Mr. Hood gave his address as Hood, which is now Elkins, and the bride lived at Mankins, which later became Sulphur City.

Preston B. Hopkins, 37, of Boonsboro, and Miss L. Herber Blake, 30 years, of Dutch Mills, went to the Rev. M. E. Butt on January 1st, who declared them to be husband and wife.

J. H. Howard, 23, of Springtown and Miss Fannie Goddard, 18, of Evansville, were married by the Rev. Norman Gaylor on April 12th.

Evansville couple, T. J. Hughes, 30, and Miss Annie E. Pumphrey, 18 years, went to Justice S. C. Ferguson, who performed their wedding ceremony on July 6th.

Pleas Hulsey and Miss Liddie Hutchens, both 21, of Brentwood, were married by their local J.P., D. E. Jackson, on July 5th.

Allen Hussong, 25, and Miss Mary Roles, 24, of Spring Valley were principals in a marriage on December 23rd by R. S. McHaffie doing the service.

The Rev. E. T. Priestley married Daniel Hutchens, 21, and Miss Tennessee Spears, 23, of Weddington, on September 12th.

J. T. Irvin, 39, of Winslow, married Miss Lucy A. Smith of that village on March 11, with Justice R. M Hammond officiating.

I. A. Jack, 24, of Fayetteville and Miss Harriett Wilson, 30 years, of Springdale, were married by Rev. J. T. Boyd on January 17th.

John F. Jackson, 23, of Winslow, and Mary A. McDonald, an 18 year old Strickler lass, were married August 29th by Mathew Spyres, a West Fork Minister.

The wedding of W. B. James, 22, and Miss Nannie Howard, 16, of Fayetteville, was on May 21st, with the Rev. J. M. Thurman doing the service.

Thirty year old J. H. Jarvis and 21 year old Ann Deen were married in a ceremony by Rev. D. W. Moore on September 19th.

F. F. Curtis read the service for H. B. Jobe, 48, and Miss C. J. Webb, 20, of Rugby, on October 17th. Curtis signed as a Justice of the Peace although he was also a minister. The name Rugby does not show on the county maps.

J. H. Johnson and Miss Nannie Boyd of Goshen area, 26 and 22 years, went to the Rev. D. C. Ross, who spoke their welcome words on Oct. 3rd.

T. B. Johnson and Miss Mattie Dunlop, 22 and 17, of Farmington, took their license to the Rev. T. H. Day, who signed it on March 22nd.

J. W. Jones, 25, and Lina L. Greenwood, 16, were married by J. York, Justice of the Peace. Their date was January 17th.

Joseph D. Jordan, 20, and Miss M. E. Seyler, 17, of Fayetteville, went to Justice J. E. Johnson, who married them on May 2nd.

Willie Jordan and Miss Fannie Moore, both 19, of the Winslow community, were husband and wife through the services of Joseph Waddel, a minister of that area, on July 14, 1886.

Another Jordan, named William M., 24 years, married Miss Chamis Hubbard, 23 years, on July 29th, with William P. Harrison presiding at the nuptials.

A Strickler couple, W. T. Jordan and Miss Francis A. Eikler, 20 and 14 years, went to their preacher R. M. Wood for a February 28th wedding ceremony.

Hiram Keck and Miss S. B. Strickler, another Strickler couple, were married on March 14th, by Marion N. West, a preacher. He was 24 and she 16.

A. S. Kellam, 32, and Miss M. E. Crawford, 25, of Boonsboro, came to the Rev. H. M. Welch who read their wedding arrangement on August 26th.

J. W. Garrett, performed the ceremony uniting Dutch Mills residents B. W. King, 25, and Miss Mattie S. Wilhite, 20, signing their certificate on March 21st.

Kirk Johnson, 46, and Miss Josephine Crook, 28, of Fayetteville, went to Justice of the Peace, John F. Johnson, who accomodated them on September 8th.

The ceremony uniting Issac Law and Miss Mollie Murry, ages 30 and 15, of Weddington on July 20th, was by Rev. J. S. Cowan.

J. C. Laws, 22, of Durham, and Miss Josephine Robbins, 18, of that community went to the Rev. W. H. Kennedy, a Durham preacher, for their matrimonial get-together on September 19th.

D. J. Layne and Miss Nannie Lankford of Weddington, were married June 20th, with Justice J. J. Odall performing. He was 24 and she 18.

Robert Leach 23, of Dutch Mills and Miss Dora Bates, 16, of Salem Springs, were married by J. P. Crozier, on August 8th. Salem Springs is now an open field where once there were many stores and shops.

The ceremonial vows of F. P. Leverett, 21, of Bentonville, and Misss Maggie Dean, 24, were heard by James J. Vaulx, Fayetteville Priest on April 5th.

J. M. Lewis, of Hood, now Elkins, and Miss S. W. Robbins of Mankins, which was later Sulphur City, were married by Rev. W. H. Kennedy of Durham. Their date was August 8th. The groom was 21 and his bride was 17 years.

A Rogers, Arkansas couple, J. D. Livesay, 25, and Miss Retta Rodman, 20, were saying vows in the presence of the Rev. G. A. Henderson, on Sept. 30th.







Why don't you tell **that** story to
FLASHBACK?